



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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REVISED **DELETION IS STUCK THROUGH AND CHANGE IN BOLD**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2015, 7:00 PM 6 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE, SUITES 5, 6, & 7

PRESENT: Chairman - Sean Kelly, Vice Chairman - Chris Todd, David Hurley, Stanislav Moline, and Alternate - Donna Resutek

ABSENT: Gilbert Gamboa and Alternate - Stefanie Cunningham

STAFF

PRESENT: Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner and Acting Recording Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Kelly called the Economic Development Commission meeting to order at 7:04p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items): NONE

III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

1. Business visit at Cold Creek Brewery, LLC, Jamie Boucher, owner/operator, 6 Industrial Drive, Suites 5, 6, and 7.

After introductions, owner/operator, Jamison Boucher, explained details about his business. The facility is four thousand square feet (4,000 square feet) and includes dedicated production space, a shipping and receiving area, and a tasting area with public access. Licensing allows distribution throughout Connecticut. Product will be sold through distribution to local restaurants and package stores and direct sales to consumers (i.e. bottles, growlers, and kegs). Bottling **CANNING** can be done via mobile unit or outsourcing and growlers are filled onsite. Discussion occurred about direct consumer sales versus distributor sales. Currently there are four (4) employees, including a brew master. The brew master was trained in Germany and formerly worked for Hooker Beers.

Mr. Boucher provided a tour of the facility and explained the brew process. Generally, three different brews will be available at any given time. A variety of recipes have been formally approved and include ales, IPAs, stouts, porters, and unique tasting brews. Each recipe and label requires state or federal approval and generally takes about forty-five (45) to fifty (50)

days. A small-scale brew system is present and used for developing recipes. The facility has room for expansion.

Mr. Boucher noted a recent failed pump seal incident and difficulty in finding readily available parts. Commissioner Kelly shared names of local suppliers that may have what Mr. Boucher is looking for.

When asked why he chose Ellington to establish his business, Mr. Boucher noted that he is a lifelong resident and lives nearby. When he contemplated started a brewery business he visited the Planning Department to find out if, and where, such a business would be allowed in Town. He then began to look at different spaces in commercial and industrial zones. This facility meets current needs and is within the desired price-point, noting the difference in price between commercial and industrial space. He explained some growth limitations with this location given what is and what is not permitted industrial zones and explained his awareness of the limitation before he located here. He explained the approvals he received from the Planning and Zoning Commission noting that process only took forty (40) days.

The Commission spoke favorably about the Cold Creek Brewery logo. Mr. Jamison stated that he worked with a local artist, known as Echo, and explained the process she used to develop the logo. He plans to use social media as the primary source for marketing, noting that a Facebook page already exists. His currently has about thirty-five (35) clients. The Commission explained Shop Ellington, an online and mobile accessible business directory, available to Ellington businesses. Shop Ellington allows businesses to create micro-sites and interact with followers through posting specials, events, hours, etc. Mr. Boucher expressed interest in learning more about Shop Ellington to which staff will share some informational brochures with him.

Cold Creek opens to the public on Wednesday, August 26, 2015, and is planning a grand opening event this fall.

Town Planner, Lisa Houlihan, distributed a copy of an invite from the Tolland Country Chamber of Commerce, CNC Software, Inc., and CBIS, inviting Chamber members, local business owners, and other interested parties to attend a legislative wrap up meeting on Thursday September 10, 2015 from 8 to 9:30 am at CHC Software, 671 Old Post Road, Tolland. Ms. Houlihan will attend.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

**BY CONSENSUS THE MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 8:41 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa M. Houlihan
Acting Recording Secretary